

THE CUSTER WILDCATS ARE THE 2002 SOUTH DAKOTA STATE MEN'S "AA" BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Custer Wildcats. The Wildcats under veteran coach Larry Luitjens, won the South Dakota Class "A" Basketball Tournament March 16 in Sioux Falls, SD.

This is the fifth title in a dozen years for the Wildcats and Coach Luitjens. Custer defeated Pine Ridge and Crow Creek to advance to the championship game against long-time State tournament rival Lennox. The Wildcats rallied to win the contest 55-50. Custer had defeated Lennox to claim State titles in 1992, 1993 and 1998. Lennox defeated Custer for the 1991 title. This is the first State title won by Custer since the 1998 championship, when Derek Paulsen hit a game-winning basket. Just over a year later, Derek was tragically killed in an automobile accident.

This year's team included the athletic talents of Derek's brother, Paige, and their father Fred is a long-time Assistant Coach to Luitjens. "It was just four years ago that we were here on this same floor and Derek made the last shot that won the game for us," Coach Luitjens told the Rapid City Journal after this year's title victory. "You can't help but think about him." Guided by the spirit and memory of Derek Paulsen, the team won 20 of their last 21 games. Another special highlight this season came when Coach Luitjens became the winningest coach in South Dakota basketball history.

Luitjens' 35-year coaching career includes stints with DeSmet, SD, and New England, ND, and the long-time coach now has a record of 590-224. Larry's teams from 1989 to 1991 put together a string of 49 consecutive victories, South Dakota's longest winning streak among State "A" teams. Larry is known for his coaching expertise and the quality of teams he puts on the basketball court each year. He is also well-respected for the sportsmanship he instills in his players and the students he mentors each year and the relationships he fosters between his team and other teams in South Dakota, especially teams on South Dakota's Indian reservations.

I want to applaud and commend the community of Custer for their ongoing support of young people. This title reflects that community support. I want to acknowledge Superintendent Tim Creal and Athletic Director Paul Anderson and recognize the dedicated efforts of Head Coach and Principal Larry Luitjens and Assistant Coaches Fred Paulsen, Chris Kolker and Neil Sieger. I congratulate the success and hard work of players Brady Sumners, Travis Meyers, Ben Mueller, Cash Melvin, Paige Paulsen, Michael Burke, Matt Lyndoe, Danny Fool Bull, Michael Arnold and Tyler Custis. Travis Meyer and Tyler Custis were named to

the all-tournament team. In addition, I want to recognize the work of team managers Lacey Stender, Cassie Borg, Candi Cullum, Pete Linde, Ryan Scheibe, Spencer Paulsen and Caleb Woods and the special support provided by cheerleaders Amanda Halderman, Ashley Ziemann, Elizabeth Plooster and Shay Larson, under the guidance of advisor Cherri Block.

Again, congratulations to the Custer Wildcats on winning this year's State "A" basketball championship for the State of South Dakota. •

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 360. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

H. Con. Res. 353. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2003 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2007.

H. Con. Res. 361. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 2356.

At 10:23 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3924. An act to authorize telecommuting for Federal contractors.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2(b) of the National Museum of African American History and Culture Plan for Action Presidential Commission Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-106), the Speaker appoints the following members on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Museum of African American History and Culture Plan for Action Presidential Commission:

As voting members: Ms. Vicky A. Bailey of Washington, D.C., Mr. Earl G.

Graves, Sr. of New York, New York, Mr. Michael L. Lomax of New Orleans, Louisiana, Mr. Robert L. Wright of Alexandria, Virginia, Mr. Lerone Bennett, Jr. of Clarksdale, Mississippi, and Ms. Claudine K. Brown of Brooklyn, New York.

As nonvoting members: Mr. J.C. WATTS, JR. of Norman, Oklahoma and Mr. JOHN LEWIS of Atlanta, Georgia.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, were signed on today, March 21, 2002, by President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD):

H.R. 2739. An act to amend Public Law 107-10 to authorize a United States plan to endorse and obtain observer status for Taiwan at the annual summit of the World Health Assembly in May 2002 in Geneva, Switzerland, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1499. An act to amend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 to permit individuals who enroll in an institution of higher education more than 3 years after graduating from a secondary school and individuals who attend private historically black colleges and universities nationwide to participate in the tuition assistance programs under such Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2019. An act to extend the authority of the Export-Import Bank until April 30, 2002.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3924. An act to authorize telecommuting for Federal contractors; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 353. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2003 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2007; to the Committee on the Budget.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2804. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, California, as the "James R. Browning United States Courthouse."

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 1748: A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 805 Glen Burnie Road in Richmond, Virginia, as the "Tom Bliley Post Office Building."

H.R. 1749: A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 685 Turnberry Road in Newport News, Virginia, as the "Herbert H. Bateman Post Office Building."

H.R. 2577: A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at